

Media Advisory

National Weather Service, Des Moines, IA

September 15, 2010

Statewide Air Quality Alert Product for Iowa Effective October 4, 2010

Beginning October 4th, 2010, the National Weather Service (NWS) in Johnston will relay statewide air quality alerts for all of Iowa for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Air quality alerts are currently relayed by each Iowa NWS office for their Iowa counties. The change on October 4th will consolidate all of the alerts into one alert product relayed by WFO Des Moines for the Iowa DNR. This is a logical change since all air quality alerts issued for Iowa originate with the Iowa DNR in Des Moines and they are coordinated through the Des Moines, NWS office.

The new alert product will be disseminated through NWS systems like all other NWS products. Here is the formal change notice issued for the new product:

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 10-29
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
755 AM EDT THU JUN 4 2010

TO: SUBSCRIBERS:
-FAMILY OF SERVICES
-NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE
-EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK
-NOAAPORT
OTHER NWS PARTNERS...AND NWS EMPLOYEES

FROM: ELI JACKS
CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: NEW STATEWIDE AIR QUALITY ALERT PRODUCT FOR IOWA
EFFECTIVE MONDAY OCTOBER 4 2010

EFFECTIVE MONDAY OCTOBER 4 2010 AT 1200 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/ AIR QUALITY ALERTS FOR ALL IOWA COUNTIES WILL BE CONSOLIDATED INTO A SINGLE AIR QUALITY ALERT PRODUCT: AEUS73 KDMX/AQAIA.

NWS AND THE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES /DNR/ PARTNER IN DISSEMINATING AIR QUALITY ALERTS COMPOSED/ISSUED BY THE IOWA DNR. CURRENTLY FIVE NWS OFFICES WITH COUNTY WARNING AREA /CWA/ RESPONSIBILITY FOR PORTIONS OF IOWA DISSEMINATE SEPARATE AIR QUALITY ALERT PRODUCTS /TABLE 1/.

TABLE 1. AFFECTED AIR QUALITY ALERT WFOS AND PRODUCTS

| WFO --- | WMO ID ----- | AWIPS ID ----- |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| DES MOINES IA | AEUS73 KDMX | AQADMX |
| QUAD CITIES IL | AEUS73 KDVN | AQADVN |
| LA CROSSE WI | AEUS73 KARX | AQAARX |
| SIOUX FALLS SD | AEUS73 KFSD | AQAFSD |
| OMAHA NE | AEUS73 KOAX | AQAOAX |

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 4 2010 WFO DES MOINES /DMX/ WILL DISSEMINATE AIR QUALITY ALERTS FOR ALL IOWA COUNTIES. THE AQAIA PRODUCT WILL REPLACE THE SEPARATE AQAXXX PRODUCTS FOR IOWA AIR QUALITY ALERTS ONLY. AIR QUALITY ALERTS FROM THE FIVE AFFECTED WFOS WILL STILL BE DISSEMINATED FOR THE PORTIONS OF THEIR COUNTY WARNING AREA /CWA/ OUTSIDE IOWA.

AN EXAMPLE OF THE AQAIA PRODUCT IS ONLINE AT:

http://www.crh.noaa.gov/images/dmx/scn_dsmagaia_sample.pdf

AIR QUALITY ALERTS WILL TYPICALLY BE VALID FOR 24 HOURS AND NOT BE UPDATED. IF CONDITIONS WARRANT THE IOWA DNR WILL REISSUE THE ALERT THE FOLLOWING DAY. SHOULD CONDITIONS IMPROVE WHILE THE ALERT IS VALID...THE IOWA DNR WILL CANCEL THE ALERT USING THE SAME PRODUCT CODE.

INTERESTED NWS PARTNERS AND USERS SHOULD TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO ENSURE SYSTEMS RECOGNIZE THE NEW PRODUCT CODE.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS...PLEASE CONTACT:

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